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WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—For Lower Michigan—Fog, preceded by snow flurries at lake stations; colder; northerly winds.

SOUVENIR COINS.

For the special benefit of THE HERALD's readers, a small number of world's fair souvenir coins—all that could be obtained—has been secured and will be offered for sale, exclusively to our regular subscribers, at the market rate of \$1 each. These coins possess a historic value. They are eagerly sought for in all quarters of the country. The supply of 5,000,000 of them will furnish a coin to only one in twelve of our population. The other eleven must be denied the satisfaction of owning one of them, because it is probable that no more than the number authorized by law to be issued will be coined. On the basis of one coin to every twelve persons THE HERALD's purchase of 37 will supply but a fraction of its number of readers, hence it will be necessary to call at the counting room early tomorrow morning to secure one of them. THE HERALD paid \$1 each for the coins to which it added express charges and other incidental expenses incurred in procuring them, but in order to place the coins at the disposal of our readers on equal footing with the banks and clubs organized to procure them, the price will be the same, \$1. Call at the counting room tomorrow morning and make yourself the possessor of one of these handsome souvenirs.

JEALOUS PRELATES.

There seems to be no end to the complications growing out of the differences between Catholic prelates over the school and kindred questions. Just as the public has recovered from the sensational accounts of the Briggs and Smith heresy trials Archbishop Ireland files charges with the highest papal tribunal reflecting on the loyalty and singleness of purpose of Archbishop Corrigan of New York. These two distinguished divines are the most prominent candidates for the vacant cardinalate. The war the one is waging upon the other, and which is returned in kind, will have the tendency to weaken confidence in the integrity of both. That a personal exchange of bitter invectives between two high church dignitaries is possible paves the way for the belief that the eminently pious are sometimes moved by the baser passions of jealousy and hatred. It is to be hoped that there will be a complete uncovering of the schemes of these prelates, if any exist, so that the cause of religion and good schools shall not be impugned to the injury of the great body of devoted and sincere Catholics. The story of the intrigue is furnished to the United Press through that enterprising newsgatherer the Chicago Evening Post. It is an exclusive story but it is probable that for the benefit of all concerned it will be given wide circulation through the regular news service of the United Press.

SET UP CROSSING GATES.

Last night's terrible accident at Sunfield calls attention to the increasing necessity for a system which will, by automatic device, or otherwise, effectually prevent persons from driving on to a railroad track ahead of approaching trains. It appears, from the lips of one of the mortally injured, that he drove on the track with the rapidly flying train in full sight, the whistle of the engine sounding and the bell ringing. The imminent peril in which four lives were placed, flashed on his mind, but he became "rattled" just as the steel nose of the remorseless monster thrust itself through the whitened guard fence and an instant later the awful crash came and four human bodies were hurled to awful death. Had there been a gate at this crossing which, by automatic action, could be lowered when the train passed a point 100 rods from the crossing, the terrible catastrophe would not have occurred. The loss of these lives is sufficient to justify the demand that some such safeguards shall be placed at every railroad crossing in the state. The cost of such a precautionary measure should not be allowed to have a moment's consideration. The value of one human life is infinitely greater than the value of all the railroads in the state. To impose the fact on your mind just ask whether you would exchange places with one of the victims of last night's horror for all the railroads in the world.

PAY THE BETS.

In summing up the probabilities of future action affecting the congressional result in this district THE HERALD erroneously states that the result of the recount in this county shows a difference of only one or two votes. THE HERALD must know that the recount committee threw out eight votes from the Plainfield precinct and refused to count several hundred other defective ballots. The principle of law which it cites will apply with equal force to a given condition, whether the results agree or disagree. Hence if the supreme court holds that the Iowa board exceeded its powers, the same decision will extend to the action of the Kent

county board. But when all is said and done the democratic house will ignore the supreme court and the county boards and count the votes itself, passing final and conclusive judgment on the intent of the voter and fixing irrevocably the plurality of the winner. The eagle is flying fast and loose with common sense to gratify the unreasonable desire of a few tin-horn gamblers whose money is at stake. If these men had as much principle as the veriest blackleg, they would pay their bets and save themselves from the contempt they are now inviting. When the result was in doubt these men were long and loud in protesting that bets should be paid when a certificate was issued. Now that a certificate is issued these same fellows refuse to pay. They are rich and can afford to let their money remain idle, but the men with whom they wagered are poor and need the money they have won. If there is a spark of honor in the defeated ones they will pay up. It is claimed that the principal bettor at one time won \$30,000, much of it from men who were obliged to mortgage their homes to pay their bets. Now, that the tables are turned, this same man refuses to pay by standing on a quibble.

DE LESSEPS' SHAME.

Charles de Lesseps is a scoundrel. If his rumored confession be true, there can be no doubt of his weakness and depravity. To be implicated in so great a scandal as the Panama canal scheme is to be branded as a rogue; but to have confessed for the purpose of securing personal immunity is to sink to the lowest depths of human depravity and villainy. To bolster up his weak-hearted confession, he offers the cowardly excuse that he wished to convince the public that the Panama canal company was forced by irresistible pressure on the part of the public and press to choose between wholesale corruption and the ruin of the enterprise. de Lesseps' apology is at best a paltry one. Better had the enterprise failed ten thousand times than that the name and honor of France be stained by so black a national disgrace. If de Lesseps be true that Ferdinand de Lesseps has enriched himself at the expense of the canal company, another idol has been dethroned. Few have believed M. de Lesseps to be a rogue. Two continents have pitied him as the tool of rogues. If his individual guilt be made apparent, he can reach no lower level of shame and disgrace. As a tool de Lesseps deserved pity. As a common swindler all the good deeds of a lifetime cannot atone for his infamy.

WHERE IS THE VICTORY?

Just after the recent election the New York World, in summarizing the result of the votes in the several states, credited Cleveland with 798,000, Harrison 172,500, and Weaver 21,500, as the aggregate pluralities carried by them. The Home Market Bulletin takes these figures and secures the following deductions: "The total of the Cleveland column is 796,000. Of this 682,000 came from the fourteen southern states, in which there is no free ballot or fair count. Leaving out those states, his majorities in the northern and western states dwindle to a total of 134,000, which is 35,500 less than Harrison's. But the World's figures are not correct. They claim 2,500 majority in California and 1,500 in Ohio, both of which states went for Harrison. Of the 130,000 thus left 500 came from Delaware and 35,000 from Missouri, old slave states in which the election machinery is still so largely in democratic hands that there is hardly a fair vote; and 20,000 came from Illinois and Wisconsin, where the local school question chiefly determined it. This examination shows that in the free voting portion of the country the republicans were in the majority over both the democrats and populists, even on the World's figures, and fuller returns show that Cleveland's majority was only 250,000. But this is not all. Seventeen of the twenty-eight New England, Central, Western and Pacific states went for Harrison and only six for Cleveland. They give 139 electoral votes for the former and only 103 for the latter, and they send to congress 129 republicans to 99 democrats and 23 populists. Where, then, is the great democratic victory? Almost wholly where there is no free and honest suffrage.

SUPERIOR COURT JURIES.

It is a matter for regret that the extreme length of an article communicated by Judge Burlingame on the subject of superior court juries forbids its reproduction in these columns. The judge has prepared an exhaustive paper, forcefully defending his administration of the honorable office he now occupies. With great particularity he describes the methods employed to secure a panel of jurors and establishes beyond cavil that the selection made by the constituted authorities is non-partisan. He then proceeds to show that in the interest of economy two juries of twelve men each are necessary. He says that when one case is in the keeping of a jury another case is called and the second jury is occupied in listening to the testimony. Inasmuch as the wisdom of this plan has been demonstrated by years of practice in other courts it does not seem necessary to spend very much time to prove it. The judge mildly criticizes THE HERALD for the statement made some years ago, that the juries are continued on pay while the court hears non-jury cases. He says it is not done now. The fact that Judge Burlingame called attention to the practice might have had something to do in working the change. The judge very properly defends the city jurors from the charge of undue bias in cases affecting the city as a whole the

communication is dignified and well meaning. It does not defend the utility of the court as a judicial function but aims to show that the officers of the court are always mindful of the interests of the taxpayers, so that the ends of justice and economy be subserved. It would be of more interest if the judge were to favor us with a brief opinion on the necessity and desirability of the superior court as a separate judicial institution of inferior jurisdiction. Such an opinion would open up a subject for intelligent and unprejudiced discussion.

ONE MORE MISTAKE.

Ex-Governor Luce aggravates a very unpleasant incident of the late senatorial campaign by declaring that Secretary Campbell never saw the celebrated "Friends will provide" letter until it appeared in print. As a matter of fact Secretary Campbell told a reporter for THE HERALD that he did write it and that its tenor was not inconsistent with the highest degree of honesty. Perhaps Mr. Luce meant some other letter, for instance the "Me and pa" epistle said to have been written by the Hon. John Washburne Blodgett of this city. It is quite probable that Secretary Campbell never saw this one at all, for it escaped the newspapers altogether. Or perhaps Mr. Luce refers to that other letter he himself wrote to Senator Stockbridge. It cannot be possible that he meant the "Friends will provide" letter, for Secretary Campbell evinced a large degree of pride in the authorship of that sagacious missive. There are a few persons who assume to believe that all three of these letters were unmitigated political blunders. There are yet others who will believe that the ex-governor's latest break is even more inexcusable "yellow" than his three predecessors. THE HERALD prefers to think that the ex-governor has made a slip of the tongue in a moment of undue mental excitement and that he will correct himself at the first opportunity.

ANOTHER FAIRY TALE.

Captain Belknap's latest contribution to contemporary literature is the following charming, not to say pathetic, bit of romantic personal history. A group of members of the house were discussing the merits and demerits of their watches. Representative Belknap of Michigan held up his watch and chain, and its little charm attached: "I have four little girls," he said, "and one year they waylaid me at every point for a penny or a dime. I carried a lot of loose change in my pockets, and so I shelled out the pennies without thinking any more about it. When Christmas came my wife gave me this watch, and the girls gave me the chain. It cost \$17.50, and I paid for it on the installment plan." "I prize this chain very much, too," continued Captain Belknap. "A relative of mine, noticing that I had lost the chain which was originally on the watch, started out in New York one day to buy me another. On the way he met General Sherman. He asked her where she was going, and she told him: 'Why, he said, 'I know Belknap very well, and will go with you.' "So they entered the store together and this charm was selected. "How much will you charge to engrave a monogram upon it?" asked the general of the clerk. "One dollar," was the reply. "The general ran his hand down into his pocket, brought out a silver dollar and threw it down. When he got on the car to ride home he found he had paid out the only small change in his pocket, and, as he told his daughter afterward, he had to 'beat' his way home. That night he was taken ill with the sickness that caused his death, and the dollar he spent for the chain, started out in New York one day to buy me another. On the way he met General Sherman. He asked her where she was going, and she told him: 'Why, he said, 'I know Belknap very well, and will go with you.' "So they entered the store together and this charm was selected. 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